

PEACE NEWS

The Weekly Newspaper of the Peace Pledge Union serving all who are working for Peace

No. 79

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2d.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO OUR READERS

CHOSE UNEMPLOYMENT INSTEAD OF WAR WORK

Pacifist's Example

"WE ARE ON THE WINNING SIDE"

BECAUSE IT WAS AGAINST HIS CONSCIENCE TO DO WAR WORK, A LANCASHIRE FACTORY WORKER CHOSE TO GIVE UP HIS JOB RATHER THAN HELP REARMAMENT IN THIS WAY.

When the works where he was employed began turning out war work in addition to its commercial goods, he told his foreman he was a pacifist.

While the foreman did not agree with his view, he promised, as far as possible, to keep this man clear of any war work. Later he was given work in connexion with shell production.

THE CHOICE

"I stated this was against my conviction and conscience," he told PEACE NEWS. "My foreman then said he had nothing else for me to do."

"Consequently I had to choose either my job or pacifism. I chose the latter. Now, of course, I am unemployed."

While this man is not in immediate financial distress, he is anxious to be able actively to support the Peace Pledge Union, whose branch in his town is just beginning to get going, and of which he is the local group leader.

"My conviction is deepened," he added. "We are on the winning side; and if we carry on, victory is ours."

In addition to his work for the Peace Pledge Union, he serves the Methodist Church as a lay preacher.

Next week's

Peace News

will be dated December 25
but will be published

ONE DAY EARLIER
than usual

PLEASE LET US HAVE YOUR
ORDER NOW

Our Present To You

THE following notable contributors have helped to make this issue of PEACE NEWS a splendid Christmas gift to our readers:—

WALTER GREENWOOD (author of *Love on the Dole*) has specially written the short story you will find on page five.

It is illustrated by **ARTHUR WRAGG**, who has also drawn the Christmas cartoon on pages six and seven.

On page eight, **STORM JAMESON** reviews a new book by Walter Greenwood and Arthur Wragg, while another review is by **BERTRAND RUSSELL**.

Besides other "extras" there are all the usual features, including

LORD PONSONBY page two;

MIDDLETON MURRY .. page six;

JAMES H. HUDSON .. page eleven

DICK SHEPPARD'S MESSAGE

MANY will receive the following message from Dick Sheppard this Christmas, for it appears over his signature on Christmas cards obtainable from the Peace Pledge Union:—

At Christmas human speech breaks down and we express ourselves in carols and crackers and good cheer, and actual peace and good will are achieved among men for 24 hours.

May you and yours share in that happiness.

MEN WHO PLEAD FOR WORK OR WAR

Pacifists Help to Meet a Need

STRIKING figures are given by a correspondent in support of the appeal by Charles Stuart (who has helped to start a band of "Good Companions" whose aim is to relieve misery by service, not charity) in PEACE NEWS a fortnight ago for the "complete pacifists" reply to people whose only hope of release from conditions bordering on starvation lies in "another bloody good war."

"During the past week," says our correspondent, "I have been into workless homes containing the following children, for whom the amounts shown are allowed each week:

Up to 5 years old 5s.—3s.
5 to 8 years 3s.—3s. 6d.
8 to 11 years 2s.—4s.
11 to 14 years 1s.—4s. 6d.

"According to the latest official cost-of-living figures the £ is worth 16s., which brings the allowances to (approximately) 2s. 4d., 2s. 9d., 3s. 2d., and 3s. 8d. respectively."



The International Voluntary Service for Peace at work.

STEP TOWARD A NEW SOCIAL ORDER

From Our Own Correspondent

THE growing realization of the community principle as a real issue for our time was shown at the recent conference in Kingsley Hall, London, E., on "Community Life and Service," both by the number present and by the letters of those unable to come.

During the second session of the conference it became abundantly clear that there already exists a practical working basis for collective production, distribution, and exchange, and that its principles would find increasingly effective application as community groups grew up.

The feeling that the time has come when many isolated units can look toward a more conscious cooperation in their work for a new order of society found expression in the setting up of a provisional committee group which will serve the movement in a way in which immediate service can be most timely and useful.

Work Already Going On

ABOUT thirty delegates from active groups attended the conference. The remainder of the 150 present were friends and visitors, many of whom had come long distances.

There was significance in the group of new, and often young, speakers on the programme side by side with pioneers such as George Davies (chairman), Jean Inebnit (of the International Voluntary Service for Peace), Theodore Harris, Dr. Glaister, John Hoyland, and Professor J. W. Scott, and in the fact that six of the speakers were women, all in one way or another "on active service."

In a series of ten-minute talks the opening session attempted a bird's eye view of a representative number of community groups, cells, and activities; some well established, others still struggling into full development.

There were brief glimpses of

MEMBERS of the City of London group of the Peace Pledge Union were thinking of holding a Christmas party for themselves.

But, in response to the appeal already referred to, they have invited twenty people (in families) from "slumland in the wealthiest city in the world" to the party in a local restaurant next Thursday evening.

Each of forty group members is contributing 2s. 6d. Should any member not turn up for the party his 2s. 6d. will pay for another guest.

Naturally, there will be a Father Christmas! It is hoped to transport the guests from the East End (Shadwell district) by car, and anyone who can help to do this, or in other ways, should inform Sidney Larcombe at the group's headquarters, 13 Paternoster Row, London, E.C.4.

camps where students dig and live with the workless;

courageous settlement life and work in the isolation of the coal valleys, the mill towns, and the East End;

a fruit farm that grows in order to give away;

an "adoption" plan that has found friends for hundreds of distressed families; and of

a conference house whose doors are open to all guests, whatever their means—or their lack.

After tea came a group of talks which showed the unifying spirit of community service abroad flooding over the boundaries of nationalism.

THE FUTURE

Through talk after talk by men and women doing real things ran an almost unbroken undercurrent—the need for the personally dedicated life, the call to get back to realities—for unity and not uniformity is the secret of true community.

The provisional committee group was set up at an extension gathering. The hope of this committee is to assist those within the community movement and those as yet outside but interested. It will seek to serve by offering a ready channel of intercommunication between existing community units, by putting into touch those units in need of help and service and those people who have help and service to offer, and so on.

Inquiries from those interested in the outcome of the meetings are invited. Inquirers should get into touch (enclosing stamped reply envelope) with the secretary, Community Coordinating Service Committee, "Chancton," Dartnell Park, West Byfleet, Surrey.

A meeting open to all who want to know more of community possibilities will be held in Kingsley Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, January 21, 1938.

MUSSOLINI AND THE LEAGUE

GOOD news for the cynics last Saturday! On that day

George Lansbury spoke in Prague (where he had arrived for talks with the leading statesmen of Czechoslovakia) of his hopes for a lasting peace agreed upon between all the countries of the world in cooperation. (Reuter says he was convinced that a conference in one form or another would take place after the publication of the report which M. van Zeeland, the former Belgian Premier, is making on the mission he received from Great Britain and France; and

A communiqué just received by PEACE NEWS says that after his talk with them "all the ministers are unanimous in the opinion that the path to peace is clearer than before and that in fact Europe as a whole is struggling to find a way through to friendly co-

WORLD PEACE. A Philosopher gives the Christian Key to Peace. Price refunded if Psychologists, Philosophers, Scientists, &c. put together can disprove it. Men will prove that they are jackasses by not reading the book for their welfare, and, if they do not mend their ways, they will live in hope of peace and die in despair. Don't get the shivers to see the beauty of the immortality of the world lest the cap might fit. Cloth 2/4. Paper 1/4 net through booksellers or post free from

"World Peace"
111 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1

QUESTION AND ANSWER

I FIND that debates on specific points make very good meetings.

I have been holding some lately and I have noticed not only that the audience is interested but that it contains many who would not come to the usual P.P.U. meeting, which is sometimes apt to be a waste of effort in preaching to the converted.

In a debate those who have doubts about our attitude or actually oppose it know that their case is going to be put without their asking any questions.

Properly conducted, therefore, and with an impartial chairman, each side

Memorial Fund Over £9,000

MORE than £9,000 has now been received by the Peace Pledge Union for the Dick Sheppard Memorial Fund.

There are still many members who have not yet sent a contribution. They are urged to do so as soon as possible to enable Dick Sheppard's work to go on.

Some of them might find it possible to follow the example of members who are carrying out the suggestion, already made in PEACE NEWS, that money usually spent on Christmas presents should (by arrangement with those who are ready to do the same) be sent to the P.P.U., 96 Regent Street, London, W.1.

For those cases where presents will be required, however, some ideas are given on page eight.

operation." In Poland, where he went next, Mr. Lansbury said he and his friends were "all very much encouraged by what we have heard and seen.")

Signor Mussolini (whose country, among others, Mr. Lansbury's efforts seek to help) discouraged such hopes by announcing Italy's decision to leave the League. (And next day Germany backed her up by promising never again to enter the League!)

But Italy is merely doing what, in effect, she has done for long enough. Moreover, the League is by no means the only instrument of international cooperation—though its Economic Committee has made recommendations which declare that

Foreigners should have the same rights and facilities as nationals for developing the natural resources of both sovereign countries and colonial territories.

Such actions as those of Italy, Germany, and Japan too (with her determination to carry on her war till she is in a position to menace British and American interests) are only possible in a world controlled by the conflict of national interests.

Insistence on the method of co-operation for the common good is therefore not only not a forlorn hope but, in fact, made the more necessary by the events of the past week.

By Lord Ponsonby

by calm argument is in such a meeting enabled to hear at first hand the reasoned exposition of the case of the other side.

If I had any misgivings about our attitude I might find myself shaken by the skilfully handled contentions of the other side on rearmament, collective "security," &c.

But being rootedly prejudiced in favour of P.P.U. policy, whether I put the case well or badly I have never found myself moved by an inch from my position. I think this is largely because I have taken the trouble to understand the very best elements in what I consider to be merely the misguided views of my opponents.

A QUESTION that is often put is: what would a pacifist do now in the present world situation?

Behind this there is a rather extravagant hypothesis which makes the question unfair. A pacifist in a position to do anything must be the member of a government which has the majority of public opinion behind it.

Obviously, if that were the case, world opinion and the policy of other nations would have been so strongly moved and influenced by the British example and by such a tremendous change of attitude, that the situation to be dealt with would be entirely different from what exists today. It is perhaps arguable that the situation might be more dangerous.

I am quite prepared to meet that as a fair question. But it is not fair to ask what we should do if we had the authority to do anything without taking into account the nature and origin of the authority accorded to us.

The perfectly legitimate question as to how we differ with the policy now adopted is one which all shades of pacifists must be prepared to meet in detail as well as in principle.

BUT there is a more difficult question which is sometimes put to a pacifist debater, more or less on these lines:

If you desire, as you naturally do, that the acceptance of your doctrine should be pressed not only in this country but in other countries of the world, how can you reach the people in the totalitarian States behind the backs of their dictators?

The first answer is: we cannot. In this case we are in precisely the same position as socialists and even liberals. Like them we know that not a word of our propaganda can be published or even uttered. Indeed, were we citizens of those nations we should be placed into some sort of strict confinement.

But we remember that sound opinion cannot be perpetually suppressed, that dictatorships are short-lived and dictators have no successors.

The importance, therefore, remains of establishing in one country, at any rate, a sufficiently strong and durable

attitude of mind toward war which we rightly believe expresses the deeper convictions of an enormous number of people throughout the world who may not have any opportunity to join any organization and who even may be compelled for the time being to take up arms, not from love of war but from the compulsion of authority or because of the bribes and allurements offered.

IF we are prevented from reaching our fellow men in foreign lands, if our chances of converting the mass of our own fellow countrymen yet awhile may seem remote, far from these being reasons for relaxing our efforts or throwing up our hands in fatalistic despair, they are compelling motives for so concentrating our endeavours that a body of enlightened opinion may be built up today, for tomorrow and the next day, which may encompass the increasing populations once they become freed from their restraints, once they recover from the spell of the delusions which obsess them or awaken from the nightmare or stupor which obscures their minds.

In fact we have an unshakable faith in humanity, be it British, German, Italian, or any other. We do not believe that, even for a measurable time, men and women are going to sink down below the level of any previous generation and allow a menace so diabolical and so devastating to be permanently established over them, perpetually threatening their very existence, falsifying their spiritual hopes, and degrading the conduct of their daily lives.

WE may present our case badly. Heaven knows we are all conscious of our inadequacy in the ceaseless struggle for so tremendous and so noble a cause!

Humbly we believe, however, that we gain strength as we work, however limited our abilities may be. Moreover we are all of us encouraged from time to time, not so much by applause as by letters and talks.

We welcome sincere opposition because this often helps to dispose of genuine misunderstandings. We are getting familiar, too, with the debater or questioner who just wants to get us in a corner.

The only man I find difficult to deal with is he, or sometimes it's a woman, who with a pitying smile remains silent. I am inclined to think it is defective powers of thought that make such a one inarticulate.

Let us remember, too, with regard to the vast populations in the totalitarian States that, while our message may not reach them in any direct way, neither do their doubts and fears as to the system under which they are subjugated reach us, except in a tiny trickle, which, however, is indicative of the existence of a larger stream behind.

Our business is to prepare here and now, without misgivings and with deep-rooted faith in the future.

Arthur Ponsonby

World Prize-Winner on PRACTICAL MEASURES FOR WORLD DISARMAMENT

PRACTICAL measures relating to disarmament were put forward by Mme. de Ligt-van Rossem, winner of the first prize in the world essay competition on "How can the people of the world achieve universal disarmament?" held by the New History Society of New York.

The section of her essay entitled "Practical Measures" is reproduced in full below. (Last week we gave extracts outlining the psychological, social, economic, political, and cultural conditions for world disarmament.)

WHAT PACIFISTS CAN DO

ALL measures tending toward the discharging of the threatening atmosphere, even though the amelioration be but temporary, are important: each warless year is a year won for the preparation and the organization of peace.

The more there exist of justice and human understanding, the more the causes of war will have diminished.

Yet, so long as we have not attained our political, social, and moral equilibrium, men will find themselves face to face with this problem: **Must the armament race be supported or must other solutions be sought?**

Those who accept the project of eventual mass murder in the event of a political or social conflict must super-arm themselves.

It is a question not only of being strong, but of being the strongest. Result: ever more violence and brutality, and on toward collective insanity.

At the same time, the numbers of those who do not accept this solution are rapidly increasing.

Let these unite, to the end that they may study the possibilities of resisting the eventual aggressor by financial and economic measures;

Let them impart to the working classes knowledge of the methods of non-violent resistance — boycott, non-cooperation, general strikes, refusal of military service, civil disobedience, moral resistance;

Let them by word and deed demonstrate that integrity which shall ensure victory; perspicacity, perseverance, inner discipline, human solidarity—an entirely new code of honour, exacting a thorough training for peace;

Let them refuse all participation, both direct and indirect, in war, openly declaring their intentions, following the example of Lord Ponsonby and the Peace Pledge Union;

Let them propagate the idea of individual and collective refusal to pay war taxes;

Let them raise funds to help the victims of the fight against war;

Let them organize crusades, campaigns, and plebiscites for peace and, in case of danger of war, parliamentary and extra-parliamentary action to prevent the government from having recourse to violence.

The under-estimating of the means available for the pacifist struggle is due to the state of intoxication by violence. It also results from the fact that too little is known concerning the efficacy of these substitutes which, however, have so often been demonstrated in history.

To the pacifists then is the task of spreading knowledge of these revealing facts. Theirs is the duty of drawing up an entire system of non-destructive defence; of organizing on all sides groups that will propagate this method of warfare, and, following the example of Gandhi, of applying it through experimentation until such time as it shall be generally accepted.

Even as it would be ridiculous to go back to the use of oil for lighting purposes now that electricity has revolutionized the world, so shall it appear ridiculous to have recourse to arms in that day when arbitration, non-violent resistance, and cooperation shall be considered as normal.

It is then that the idea of the sublimated struggle, for centuries recognized by the noblest representatives of the human race, shall have become a veritable creative force, and that disarmament and peace, at this hour a flickering hope, will have been transformed into an inflexible resolution.

Then, and then only, the cry, **Peoples of the world, unite!** so long raised in the desert, will have become the living and universal truth.

(The November number of *New History*, published by the New History Foundation, 132 East 65th Street, New York, contains the texts of the essays which won the three world prizes.)

VIENNA'S UNDERGROUND THEATRE

From Our Austrian Correspondent

IN a little Vienna basement, with a seating capacity for 49 people, is a new, very unconventional "Modern Theatre." Its aim is to offer to the public such art as is shunned by the "big stages." On theatres seating 50 or more a heavy tax is levied.

Real art is now allowed within small circles in Austria, and the "Modern Theatre" has opened with a great piece of pacifist art, *Fire Over Chapei*. The

author is William Watt.

By crushing arguments against war, the play shows the failure of the League of Nations, and suggests that only individual resistance will stop war.

Although strongly boycotted by the agencies of public life, this little theatre draws its little crowd nightly. The applause the playwright and actors meet, proves what real art must offer nowadays if it is to conquer the minds and sentiments of the real people, loving peace, and being abused by and in war.

FEW, BUT KEEN!

From Our Own Correspondent

Although the Toronto (Canada) Fellowship for Christian Social Action has only about a dozen members, it is starting on a city-wide campaign to make Toronto "pacifist-conscious."

The group meets once a week in a Protestant church in the east end of the city.

School Children Sentenced

Reports that 37 Rumanian school children (including girls) were tried by an army court and given terms of imprisonment up to five years for having "endangered the security of the State," have drawn a protest from the Geneva headquarters of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Three Months' Prison if Found with Pacifist Paper

Special to PEACE NEWS

Schools to Lose Their Guns

AFTER YEARS OF PUBLIC AGITATION

FOLLOWING several years' agitation led by New Zealand's National Peace Council, it has at last been decided to remove from

A FINE of 2,000 Austrian schillings or three months' imprisonment is the penalty for being in possession of literature of the War Resisters' International in Austria.

The decree states: the circulation of the paper, *The War Resister*, whose publishing office is at Enfield, Middlesex, England, is indefinitely forbidden in the country.

Nevertheless, other news received by the W.R.I. is heartening:—

"To Brother"

A SIMPLE, one-word explanation of the positive side of non-violence has just been provided by Mr. M. K. Gandhi in connexion with his policy for meeting "terrorism." In *Harijan* he writes:—

Tribes called criminal cannot be dealt with radically differently from the past practice without ascertaining how they will behave. One difference can certainly be made at once.

They may not be treated as criminals to be dreaded and shunned, but efforts should be made to brother them and bring them under the national influence.

Does not that one word "brother" contain the essence of a truly non-violent policy?

HOLLAND

Members of the W.R.I. have recently obtained considerable publicity for the cause of anti-militarism by a street parade in The Hague. Men and women wearing sandwich boards and a well-decorated car displayed pacifist posters throughout the city.

Postcards, inviting the public to ask for pacifist information and bearing the name and address of the organization were distributed. **From only one parade over 200 inquiries were received.**

IRELAND

The All-Ireland Anti-War Crusade has now been accepted as the Irish Section of the W.R.I.

Members now sell PEACE NEWS in the streets.

secondary schools guns lent them by the Government.

Christ College, Christchurch, which had two eighteen-pounders, was reported to be proud of its artillery unit.

"One wonders," commented *The Peace Record*, organ of the peace council, "whether this unit was

headed by a cross-bearer when going out to machine-gun practice!

"We are sorry that the Government has stopped short at the removal of guns and has not yet prohibited the military training, but no doubt this further step will follow in due course."

CHRISTMAS AMIDST WAR AND IN PRISON



Will you this Christmas-time remember the innocent women and children, victims of the Spanish war?

The W.R.I. has its own Children's Home in the South of France and is regularly sending money, medicines, food and clothing into Spain.

Will you also remember the 415 war resisters who will spend their Christmas in the prison cells of Europe?

In Jugo-Slavia alone there are 303 such men and the usual sentence is 10 years.

Our work for war resistance is being carried out in 68 different countries of the world.

THE WAR RESISTERS' INTERNATIONAL seeks to support alike both the **PIONEERS OF THE WARLESS WORLD** and the **VICTIMS** of the present world in which war is rampant. Will you help us to maintain this vital work?

Send your contributions, large or small, to me

A. RUTH FRY, Hon. Treasurer
War Resisters' International

11 ABBEY ROAD, ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX

Headquarters' Notes

By NIGEL SPOTTISWOODE

CHRISTMAS. Traditionally, a time of rejoicing at the birth of Christ, a time of reuniting of the family, a time of forgiveness (temporary) of enemies, and a time of stocktaking of the past year. Christmas used to be a serious affair—a time of repentance when people were genuinely concerned over their past life and determined in some small measure to do better in the future.

The paper hats and the tin whistles are a comparatively recent introduction—symptomatic of the mechanical world which has produced them. For Christmas today has gone the way of all other festivities and acts of ritual, and has become an escape. An escape in two ways. For those who are ground in the wheels of industry or who have been thrown out into the scrap-heap as useless slag, it is an escape from the reality of material things. Escape from the conveyor belt, the dole queue, from public relief and the degradation of the work house. And who can deny them the joy of this brief dream? You who have saved your pennies, you who have been buying your Christmas through this year of misery, take down your money-boxes from the mantelpiece. Buy your Christmas tree and your extra ration of coal; forget, if you can, the price of margarine and the instalment on the broken chair, and rejoice in your strength which has enabled your children for one day in the year to eat their fill.

But for those in high places, Christmas must be largely an escape from moral obligations. At Christmas they can give rein to their natural generosity, which, if allowed into their public life, would undermine the whole structure of business and politics. It is not entirely their fault. For the spontaneous festivity and joy which Christmas should be is quite alien to the life which men must lead if they are to play the game of power politics and help to perpetuate the present state of national and international relations, based on injustice and maintained by violence. I do not suggest that there are many people whose Christmas festivities are consciously hypocritical. I believe that years of practice has pushed the understanding of the disparity between their personal morality and their public opportunism down into the unconscious, where, in fact, it can be far more damaging. And there are the men who, by the power of their propaganda mould the minds of the nation. And Christmas propaganda, in the press, the cinema and the wireless is dope. They cry peace, peace, when there is no peace, hoping to turn good will among men into acquiescence with the status quo.

Refusing A.R.P. Rates

Members in St. Ives, Cornwall, support the proposal made by Cecil H. Cox (this page, December 4), and suggest that P.P.U. Headquarters should give a lead.

A SEASONABLE POSTER

"and on earth—Peace." It is in the spirit of Christ that we must fashion History.

In these words a poster published by the Friends' Peace Literature Committee (and obtainable from Northern Friends' Peace Board, Springbank, Rawdon, near Leeds, and Friends' Peace Committee, Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W.1) strikes a topical note.

GROUP NOTES

By JOHN BARCLAY

A FEW weeks ago I suggested that each group should make a survey of its area and attempt the seemingly impossible task of getting into personal touch with everyone living there. The first detailed account—sent me by W. H. Corbett, group leader of **Kentish Town, N.W.5**—can be summarized as follows:—

1. Two members are spending all their spare time addressing envelopes from the voters' list at the public library, commencing with the streets nearest the group meeting place.

2. Into these envelopes are put an A.R.P. pamphlet and one other leaflet and the group members undertake the delivery of 100 of these each weekend.

3. Other members follow this up by calling on the houses thus covered—usually within three or four days.

4. About a week before the canvass a notice is placed on six display notice boards (usually to be found outside newsagents) giving the name and address of the group leader and time and place of meeting. The total cost is very small and the result in this case after only three weeks is 27 new members, several offers of help and some cash.

If every group would make a similar survey and keep on working with an urgency born of inspiration out of faith, the number of new members gained would be overwhelming. There are, I am convinced, hundreds of thousands of pacifists willing and able to help us if only we take the initiative. A new **PEACE DRIVE** is wanted. Five hundred new members a week is good, but we want 500 a day. The work entailed is terrific but it can be done and in fact is already being done in many parts of the country. Extracts from this week's letters dealing with group activity would fill four or five pages of **PEACE NEWS** and would still be an inadequate report of what is happening. Here are a few of the most comprehensive:—

(a) **Midland Area:** "The Area is now fairly launched on its way. . . . I am certain there are many small groups in the area within our activities which know nothing about us; it is the small, almost unimportant, group which I am specially keen on helping and which the Area can help. . . . for your information the Area's committee includes delegates from Derby, Birmingham, Wellingborough, Nottingham, Stoke, Loughborough, Newark, Wolverhampton, Uttoxeter, Oakham, Melton Mowbray, Burton, and Leicester." Regional Organizer, Mr. G. Metcalf, Main Road, Easton-on-the-Hill, Stamford, Lincolnshire.

(b) **Manchester:** "... we held meetings in the suburbs and nearby towns and villages prior to the big meeting and . . . on the whole the venture was a success, not financially as only two showed a profit, but from the point of view of experience gained and putting our point of view over to the unconverted. . . . the whole of the organization was left to the groups and I am certain it has done them good!"

(c) **Glasgow:** "Here are some more addresses for you to gladden your heart. . . . I have just completed the immense labour of sorting out our members into districts and the next step is to encourage district activity and group activity within each district. We are having an average attendance of 300 at our monthly meetings."

. . . and finally a suggestion from **Highgate.** "Our group has now got a permanent advertisement on our local tube station which will be changed from time to time. If each group could finance and display at least one advertisement of a permanent character in its own locality, here would be a fine start toward headquarters' own advertisement campaign. Bigger and better advertisement should be our motto."

The Notice Board

Christmas: Headquarters will close 2 p.m. Friday, reopening Wednesday morning.

Sidcup and Chislehurst group dance, January 1 (8—11.45 p.m.) Bridgeman Hall, Southwood Road, S.E.9 (near New Eltham Southern Railway Station). Tickets 2s., dress optional. Limited number of tickets. Apply John H. Haynes, 16 Frensham Road, New Eltham, S.E.9, by December 23, enclosing remittance.

Start of a Landslide Toward Pacifism?

From Our Own Correspondents

THERE is a spirit of inquiry into the peace-or-war issue, and we may be on the verge of a minor landslide toward pacifism, said Wilfred Wellock, at a **Northampton P.P.U.** meeting.

He urged further propaganda effort, particularly in regard to air raid "precautions," and suggested public debates as a most useful way of obtaining publicity.

Dealing with world affairs, Mr. Wellock said that under the P.P.U. policy colonies would be handed over to an independent band of people, chosen for their discrimination and sound judgment. The markets of the world would be open to all, thus eliminating the most potent cause of war—the struggle for markets.

Has the "minor landslide" toward pacifism already begun? The question comes to mind when reading reports such as the following, from **Newton Abbot:**—

Thursday last; successful meeting — speaker, Rev. W. J. F. Huxtable. Address warmly appreciated. Splendid attendance, five new members and more regular readers of **PEACE NEWS**.

NEWTON ABBOT, TORQUAY, and **PAIGNTON** groups pushing efforts for peace rally in January. Speakers: Laurence Housman, Canon Morris, Miss Thorneycroft, supported by local ministers and councillors.

PEACE NEWS: Sales now thirty per week, increasing, can be purchased from seller outside Woolworth's, Fridays and Saturdays, 5.30—7.30 p.m.

Pacifists in Action

CORRESPONDENTS tell us of the following ways in which P.P.U. members have been making themselves useful.

Northampton members are being invited to add their names to the lists of blood donors for the Northampton Hospital. Several members are already among those called on by the hospital. They feel this is a splendid answer to the oft-repeated charge that pacifists are only negative.

During the autumn **Hampstead** members attended first aid classes arranged by the group. Seven of them, successful in the St. John First Aid examination, received certificates last week.

Still more P.P.U. councillors:—**Newton Abbot** group now contains two. Mr. H. S. Gammage, of **Ewell** group, a former member of Epsom and Ewell Urban District Council, has just been elected to the new Epsom and Ewell Borough Council.

A Member writes on—

BADGES

Hitherto I have not worn a badge on the grounds that the old badge tried to carry a great message in too few words. The new badge has removed that reason, and the white poppy episode in the City has forced me to a new decision.

This may seem a petty point to those who like badges; but there must be some like myself who suffer acute discomfort (at any

UNDER THE OAK TREE

By BELLA HOOPER

(On behalf of the Basque Fund.)

SOME time ago we reported in **PEACE NEWS** the arrival at our home of the sister, sister-in-law, and two little children of one of our Spanish teachers. Recently we received the following letter from the father of the babies:

Cuenca, November 9, 1937.

Miss Bella Hooper,
Directress of the Basque House,
Langham, Colchester.

Dear Madam,

I have just had my family's letter telling me the great favours that you have made them and I have the honour to say you that I am very thankful to you.

At the same time I beg you will please give the P.P.U. my thanks. Your kindness is graven deeply on my heart. If I could do anything to help I shall do gladly.

I hope that my wife and sisters will do honour to your hospitality.

Kiss, please, my two dear little babies. I beg your pardon if I do not write the English language correctly.

Yours sincerely,

LUIS ECHEVAMA.

We feel that we could not have better thanks than this letter, and the presence of our new visitors has brought nothing but added good and happiness to the house. A similarly grateful letter has been received by "Mr. President of the Peace Pledge Union."

On Saturday, December 4, a football match was played on our own ground against a team sent by Woods of Colchester, in which we were defeated by ten goals to eight. Several of the boys who came to play visited us again on Sunday.

On Tuesday, December 7, some of our children took part in the third Spanish concert held at the Scala Theatre in London.

At 2.30 in the afternoon the bus came for them, and 26 excited little people packed into it, laden with their costumes and properties for the show, and a collection of rugs and blankets to keep them warm on the journey. The long roads were shortened by the hearty singing of many Spanish and English songs, while some of the little ones fell asleep, to wake up and find themselves amongst all the lights and traffic of London.

When the children arrived at the theatre they had a short rehearsal in order to get accustomed to the stage and its exits and entrances, and then all went off in a body to have a meal. It was an unusual sight for Tottenham Court Road—a band of eager, chattering Spanish children marching along in an excited but orderly procession.

On their return to the theatre they changed into their costumes and were made up ready for their share in the concert. Their first item was an Andalusian Café scene, which is a combination of two numbers which they have previously performed. It is a very lively scene, full of movement and fun, and includes songs and dances. The audience was enthusiastic in its reception of it, and the children performed with delightful zest and self-confidence. They appeared later in the programme in *Los Cuatros Muleros*, which is now familiar to all friends who have seen the children act.

Our most grateful thanks to all senders of anonymous parcels.

rate at first) from wearing a badge. More important than this, however, should be the fact that wearing the badge shows that we are not ashamed of our views, and gives us many opportunities to enlighten the inquisitive.

I appeal to my fellow badge-haters (or badge-scorers) to pocket their pride and swallow their discomfort. (All the same, I wish the new badge could have been a little smaller!)

G.C.A.

The author of *Love on the Dole* wrote this story of a War-time Christmas specially for

PEACE NEWS

A CHRISTMAS PRESENT



LD Mrs. Harrop, who lived in the end house of one of Hanky Park's many dilapidated streets, was a widow and she had lived alone ever since her grandson, whom she called "Our Joe," had gone off to join the Lancashire Fusiliers to fight the Germans in France.

When she began to miss Joe and the wages he had been in the habit of bringing home every Friday she often used to sit in her house talking aloud to herself, saying: "He oughtn't to ha' gone," then she would shake her head: "No, he oughtn't to ha' gone; not when he were doing so well at that there engineering job. Why, I've heard tell o' women what's earnin' five pounds a week and more a-making them there numitions." She considered the situation for a few moments, then added: "What they wanted to start this 'ere war for I don't know. Our Joe was gettin' on fine at his work. And just look at the price o' food. It were hard enough for me to manage afore."

Like all the other women, young or old, of the neighbourhood, she often, about the middle of the week, used to stand staring into her purse motionless, thinking, wondering and trying to solve the insoluble problem of how to make ends meet. And, like all the other women, her thoughts always ran in the same pattern. The empty purse finally suggested only one thing, the pawnshop. But, when you were Mrs. Harrop's age you generally hadn't anything left to pawn for there wasn't a stick, stone, or rag of bedding in the house which the most generous of pawnbrokers would accept as security against a loan.

Thoughts would then turn to Mr. Hulkington, the fat and greasy proprietor of the "corner shop," who sold everything in the way of groceries in minute quantities "on tick." Every purchase you made was entered in a penny notebook which you kept, and a copy of the entry was made in his bulging ledger. If you didn't pay up at weekend then your credit was finished until a settlement was made. It was useless to go to a tick-shop in another neighbourhood because your appearance there told the suspicious proprietor of your default elsewhere; and you knew he would shake his head and point to the notice which asked you kindly not to ask for credit.

You could always see women in Hanky Park traipsing about. And you knew there could be only three places they were going to, or coming from; these were the pawnshop, Hulkington's grocery store, or home. An invisible barrier, stronger than the most formidable prison walls, imprisoned them forever within the narrow confines of that triangle. The invisible barrier was whatever words or phrases you cared to use for the consequences of an empty purse.

One evening in mid-December Mrs. Harrop was trudging through the slushy thawed snow on Bride Street when what should she see in the window of Keppel's pork shop but the carcass of a pig with an orange stuck in its open mouth and a few sprigs of holly behind its ears and along its pink back.

She stopped to look at it, and she remembered the time when she could afford a leg of pork for Christmas. Of course, that was a long, long time ago.

She looked at the pig and then it dawned on her. Oh yes, Christmas would soon be here. Of course, that's why the pig was there with the orange in its mouth and the holly behind its ears and on its back. Sure sign of Christmas, that. "Well, I never," she said, aloud and in amazement: "Fancy me forgetting it was nearly Chris'mas!"

But Christmas wasn't what it used to be before the War started. What with everywhere being made dark for fear of those Zeppelins, and what with ration cards which you had to show before you could get a bite of food. As though folks round here needed ration cards! As though you weren't always rationed by the limitations of a perpetual consumption of the purse!

"Chris'mas," said Mrs. Harrop once again: "I ne'er thought it was so near, really I didn't." She remem-

by
WALTER GREENWOOD
illustrated by
ARTHUR WRAGG

bered Joe, out there in the trenches: "Aye," she said: "An' ik'll be Chris'mas out there same as it is here, war or no war."

She turned from Keppel's window and resumed walking, pulling her threadbare shawl about her starved frame, her broken boots squelching at each step. "I'll be glad to get home," she said. "It's rare cold out today." She remembered the pig in Keppel's window. "Aye," she said, "Chris'mas. Now I really ought to be sending summat to our Joe."

She thought about it. "He's allus been a good lad to me; just like he was my own son; ever since I took him in after his ma and pa died. Ay, that was a pity the way the two of 'em went one after the other." She sighed and repeated: "Aye, our Joe's been a good lad to me, make no mistake about that."

For days she tried to think of something she could send to him: but everything she thought about cost money. Where was she to get money from?

She called on the landlord of the Duke of Gloucester public house where she often had spent her money when she could afford it. She asked: "Scrub your bar out for a shillin'?" But the landlord shook his head and, looking at the infirm old woman who, to his eyes, looked as though if she once got down on her knees she would not be able to rise again, said: "We've got a woman as does the cleanin'." And he looked at her again, this time suspiciously, for he knew these sly old foxes who were always ready to trade on a generous man's credulous sympathy if they thought they could get the price of a pint.

Mrs. Harrop said: "All right. I just thought, like," shuffled away and called on Mrs. Nattle in North Street, who had a card in her window which said she was "Agent for the Good Samaritan Clothing Club" and on which she had written "Naybores Obliged." If Mrs. Nattle approved her neighbours' honesty she would recommend them as suitable persons to be trusted to make the regular weekly repayments.

Mrs. Harrop said she would like a check for ten shillings "bein' as how it's near Chris'mas and I'd like to buy our Joe a present, like." But Mrs. Nattle began to shake her head even as Mrs. Harrop began to speak. Mrs. Nattle said that Mrs. Harrop wasn't in any position "to be a-goin' in for somethin' what you can never pay for."

So Mrs. Harrop said all right and thank you "I just thought I'd ask, like, bein' as it's Chris'mas comin' on and me wantin' to buy our Joe a present. Y'see, he's allus been such a good lad to me."

She went home and sat in front of the small fire in her bare room. "It's a pity," she told the fireplace: "I'd ha' liked to send him somethin', bein' as Chris'mas is comin' on."

At tea time she toasted a piece of stale bread and spread some beef dripping on it. Then she made some tea. She had stopped taking sugar because it was so dear and so hard to come by. Mrs. Middleton, across the street, gave her a penny a week for her sugar ration card because she, Mrs. Middleton, thought "tea's just poison to me without sugar." Mrs. Harrop nodded and replied: "Aye, and that's how I feel about milk. Couldn't drink tea without milk not if you was to crown me with gold."

Mrs. Harrop's ancient hand reached for the milk jug and, just as she was about to pour some into her tea she stopped. She used a pennyworth of milk a day. Now, if she refrained from this she'd have sevenpence saved in a week's time. And if she did without the sixpennyworth of meat on Sunday she would have enough to pay for a pair of cheap socks

for Joe. "Aye, that's what I'll do," she said.

When she had saved the money she called across the street for Mrs. Middleton, who acted as scribe and interpreter whenever Mrs. Harrop wanted to send, or whenever she received, a letter. Mrs. Harrop could neither read nor write "bein' as how I ne'er had any schoolin' when I was a likkle girl," as she explained.

When Mrs. Middleton came across she opened her mouth in surprise to see the house lit by a candle burning on the table: "Ay!" she exclaimed: "Why haven't you got your gas lit?"

"I've been savin' the pennies," Mrs. Harrop replied. "I just wanted you to write me a letter to our Joe, Mrs. Middleton. I hope you don't mind the cangle to write by." She explained the reason of the letter: "Just say, 'Dear Joe I send a pair of socks bein' as it's Chris'mas to keep your feet warm Yours truly Your Old Grandmother Mrs. Amy Harrop.' You don't mind writin' it for me, do you, Mrs. Middleton?"

"Ay, no," Mrs. Middleton answered: "O' course don't. Have you bought him the socks yet?"

"No, I was just goin' out to get 'em. I thought I'd write me the letter I could send 'em off when I came back."

Then a rat-tat came on Mrs. Harrop's front door. She went to see who it was. A telegraph boy was standing there and he gave her a telegram, then went away. A neighbour who was passing saw the tra-



saction and went to inform the rest of the st Women from the other houses came trooping. Mrs. Harrop's kitchen and stood in silence round table.

"It's a telegram," Mrs. Harrop said, looking a little uncomprehendingly. "Now I wonder who'd wanting to send me a thing like that?" She looked at Mrs. Middleton: "Here, you look at it, Mrs. Middleton. What's it for?"

Mrs. Middleton opened it, and her eyes were shining when she looked at Mrs. Harrop again: "Now you'll have to be brave, lass," she said.

Mrs. Harrop wanted to know what the telegram said.

"It's your Joe," said Mrs. Middleton; "It's a letter from the War Office. It says your Joe's been killed. She offered the telegram to Mrs. Harrop, who too and sat down, the hand holding the telegram fall limply into her lap. "Killed?" she said, as though not quite understanding.

"Our Joe." She scratched her head, then held the telegram to the light of the candle and looked at the writing which she did not understand.

The neighbours were looking at her: some of them were sniffing, one was wiping a tear from her eye, another whispered consolingly to somebody: "Ah, well, she'll get a pension."

Then Mrs. Harrop looked at the neighbours, the candle light softening her time-scarred face: "Fancy our Joe. And I was just goin' out to get him a bit of a present bein' as it's Chris'mas—wasn't I, Mrs. Middleton?" She paused, then, shaking her head, added: "Our Joe, though. An' he were allus such a good lad to me. . . ."

(Copyright by Walter Greenwood)

THE RISK OF PACIFISM

By J. Middleton Murry

THE distinction which I have at times tried to draw between pacifism and policy has evidently been bewildering to some of my readers. I will try to make my meaning plainer.

It seems to me self-evident that pacifism can have only one policy which is expressive of its conviction. That policy is the policy of complete unilateral disarmament. Any policy other than this is not a pacifist policy. But the fact that other policies cannot be pacifist policies does not mean that the pacifist is indifferent to them, or that he may not choose to support one rather than another of them as more conducive, or at least less pernicious, to the cause of peace. Nevertheless, his realization that there is only one, quite simple and self-evident, practical policy of pacifism will safeguard him from the illusion that the wholehearted pursuit of some subaltern policy is likely to bring him much nearer to his goal.

It will be said that the one practical policy of pacifism—namely, unilateral disarmament—is not a practical policy, in the sense that no big political party dreams of adopting or advocating it. That is quite true. But we are on a slippery slope indeed if we once begin to apply the criterion of practicability, in this sense of the word, to pacifism. Pacifism cannot, without becoming completely emasculated, accept the position that only that is a practical policy which has a reasonable chance of being adopted by a majority of the electorate. And, I think, we misconceive the whole purpose and potentiality of pacifism if we regard it as a movement having for its aim the winning of a political victory.

The potentiality of pacifism lies in its absolute freedom from political compromise. Its ideal and basic vision is that the time for compromise is over, because every form of political promise leads ultimately to the one catastrophe of war. Pacifism therefore starts with complete dissociation of the individual, as an individual, from war. This it regards as the one thing needful. And, in a very real sense, the deliberate dissociation of the individual from war is the end-all and be-all of the Peace League Union.

Naturally, it would be superhuman and impossible not to look beyond that. To one who has pledged himself to renounce war, consideration of all kinds of policies is relevant. It seems to me that by far the most hopeful and the most natural way of regarding the movement is to regard it, not as something which promulgates policies itself, but as a growing core of creative life whose influence upon events is, by nature, incalculable. Who can profess to tell what the effect on politicians and governments would be if the P.P.U. had a million members? All one can say is that the effect would be profound indeed. And it is for the effect of this kind that pacifists strive. By declaring their resolution of absolute resistance to war, they have disclaimed all participation in the ultimate sanction of existing society; they have entered a realm in which political calculation is no longer really possible, because by this total repudiation of the basis of existing

CHRISTMAS EVE



“... behold, from henceforth all generations shall

society, they have made themselves an incalculable force. It is of the very essence of the P.P.U. today that it is an unprecedented movement.

But if precedents have to be found for it, it is, in my opinion, more illuminating to seek them in religious rather than political movements. Not that I would make any hard and fast distinction between religion and politics. On the contrary, it appears to me that a real religious movement is always political, and a real political movement always religious. But nowadays the religious zeal is gone out of “politics”; because we have come to the end of the epoch of individualism, in which we have lived since the English Civil War. The wheel is turned full circle. The individualistic impulse which gradually created political democracy has now to assert itself in a new form against the impending tyranny of nationalist democracy; and the new struggle posits itself in the realization that there can be no legitimate struggle against nationalist democracy except by the methods of non-violence.

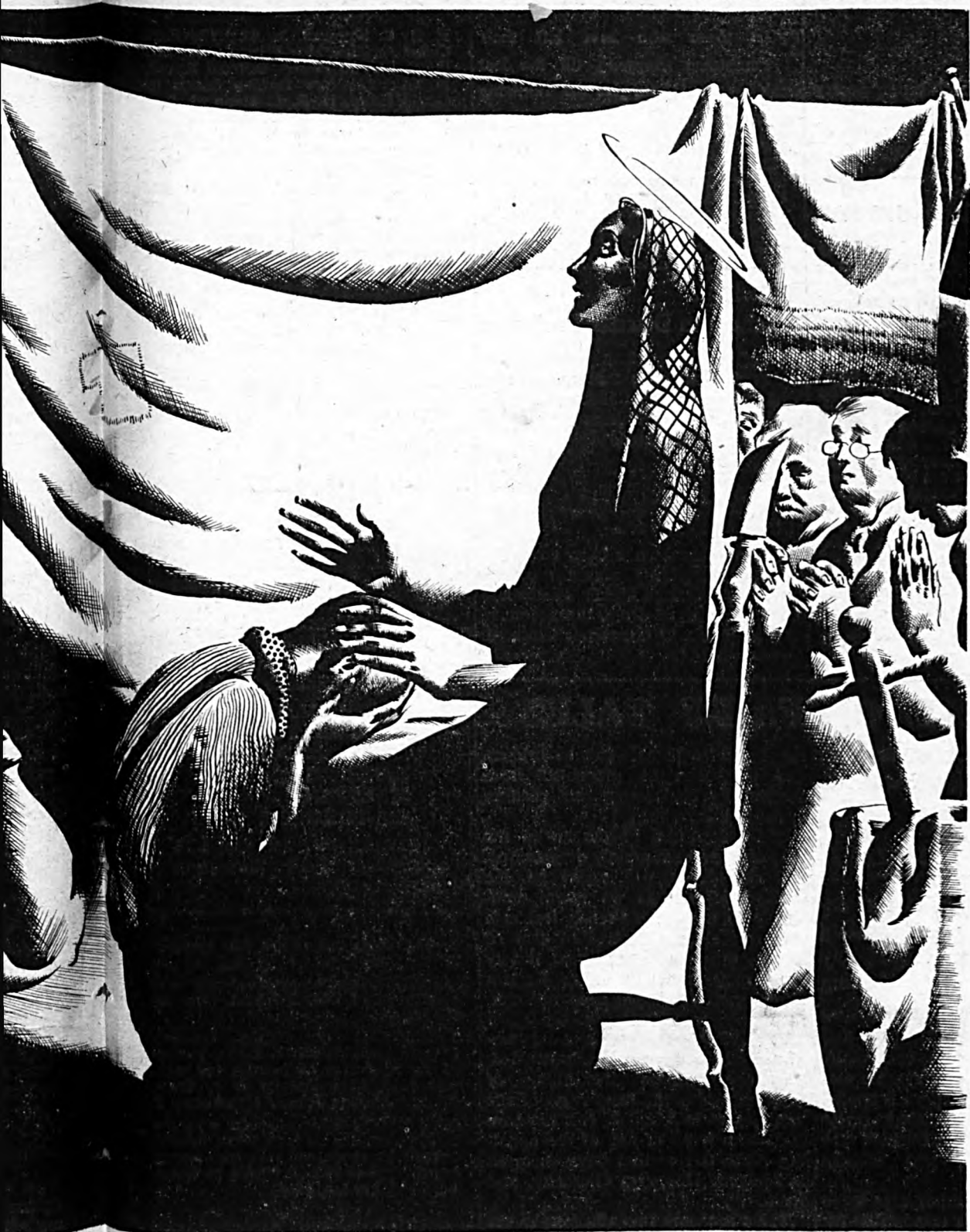
But that realization cannot be rationalized

beyond a certain point. It is impossible to prove conclusively by argument that nationalist democracy cannot be successfully overthrown by civil war; or that international peace cannot be achieved by “collective security.” The only solid ground you have, amid the welter of argument and counter-argument, hypothesis and counter-hypothesis, is experience and the simple moral intuition that you cannot overcome evil by evil. That is not so startling today as it was when it was first propounded: we have the experience of nineteen centuries to help to persuade us that it was not a visionary dream. We are more susceptible to that moral intuition than we have ever been before. Nevertheless, it still remains something of a different kind from a rational conclusion. If pacifism were capable of demonstration, we should have good ground for despair—if only at the palpable imperviousness of the majority of mankind to demonstrable truth.

But Life, neither in individuals nor in nations, is not an affair of rationality. Fortunately for us all, Life is much more a matter of Love. On the elemental plane, Life needs

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Drawn by ARTHUR WRAGG



generations shall call me blessed." (Luke I, 48)

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Love in order to maintain itself at all; and all this present justified alarm about the declining birth-rate is merely an indication of the degree to which Love is being "rationalized" today. And that means Death. Rationality has gained the upper hand. Society insists on being able to calculate the future: and the same snatching at security which eventually paralyses the procreative instinct within the nation also precipitates the catastrophe of war between the nations.

Pacifism, to me, is first and foremost the movement that is based, in varying degrees of awareness, on creative Love—that is to say, the Love which knows that it has to take a risk. To me, it is the essence of Love that it takes a risk: because the condition of Love is essentially one in which the Self—that in us which dreads risk—is forgotten. To take the risk out of pacifism would be to kill it. And that is what I mean by stressing the contrast between pacifism and policy, and pacifism and politics. Policies and politics are nearly always things which have no risk in them; in so far as they are, they are alien to pacifism.

PARS FOR THE PLATFORM

"Precautions"

IT may be doubted whether any aeroplane flew over Chatham Dockyard on either of this morning's raids, or whether any pilot, assured in a general sense of his position at a given moment, could have decided with confidence on the right moment to release a bomb intended for a particular objective. The darkness was such that it might have defeated the bomber's aim, though it would probably not have preserved the area from bombs.—*The Times*, November 6.

In other words, air raid "precautions" (which were responsible for the darkness) not only don't protect us but actually ensure that women and children shall be hit instead of military objectives.

Desire—and Intention

THE hopeless inconsistency between an innocent claim that all we want is peace and the determination to hold on to the wealth we have, regardless of the poverty of other nations, is obvious enough to most people working for peace. Yet Field-Marshal Lord Milne, former Chief of the Imperial General Staff, could put that inconsistency even more plainly than do those who wish to expose it—and presumably not see anything wrong in it. In Paris on December 3 he said:

We desire peace; we are not envious of anyone; and what we have we intend to keep.

And we wonder why we don't get peace!

(Concluded on page 11, column 4)

Peace News

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THE PEACE PLEDGE UNION welcomes all who accept the pacifist doctrine, no matter what their approach. Its activity is not confined to the registration of those who are opposed to war, but promotes and encourages a constructive peace policy. Members are attached to local groups designed to achieve a communal peace mentality and extend the influence of pacifism by propaganda and personal example.

Give your pledge on a post card:—

I renounce war and I will never support or sanction another.

Sign this, add your address, and send the card to The Peace Pledge Union, 96 Regent Street, London, W.1.

December 18, 1937

THE LEAGUE IS DEAD LONG LIVE THE LEAGUE!

THAT spirit of futurity which watches over the actions of men with ironic critical humour, and was known to George Meredith, the novelist, as the Comic Spirit, can hardly have been absent from so apt an occasion for its attendance as the moment when Signor Mussolini announced to the crowd standing in the rain outside the Palazzo Venezia the tidings we already knew of Italy's defection from the League of Nations. The terms in which the announcement was made were such as the world has grown accustomed to expect whenever a dictator faces a microphone: they were such as ought to insult the elementary sense of humour not only of men but of children. The affronts to humanity's proportioning sense indeed indications of a departure from the norm of common social sanity which Time must rectify, and which Time will rectify surely as day follows night. The present pitfall that an historic people can be made to believe under stress of necessity, that such bombast does not disgrace them and betray their prospects of reasonable and happy life.

We all know of the man who "left his country his country's good." It is thus that Italy leaves the League. Of course she left it in fact, though in word, when the conquest of Abyssinia was rescinded upon years ago; so that the late announcement cannot be other than fatuous and otiose. But now the United States, Germany, Italy and Japan are determined to stand outside the League, the time must be admitted past all denial that the League, working instrument of international justice and peace, has proved a complete failure. Moreover, it is as futile and idealistic to put the blame for this failure upon the nations which have failed to instrument the League, because any League worth making would have been a League strong enough to stand the test of events. Otherwise, it is merely an insurance company whose liabilities are always greater than its assets. The League has failed, and it has failed because it presupposed that the nations composing it were other than they were. It has failed because it tried to coerce them into the idealistic pattern it devised for them.

Pacifists accept the failure of the League as a foregone conclusion. All the same, they gladly acknowledge their complete unity of purpose with those who have hitherto supported the League. The League must be re-created. How is it to be done? The first step to the re-creation of the League is the relinquishment of the principle of coercion. The League member must be induced to give up the negative coercion and substitute for it the positive principle of cooperation; for only as cooperation is made the animating principle of any federation of mankind can the world going to obviate the recurrent necessity of war. Pacifism is the very reverse of the blatant negation which the disenchanted L.N.U. "member accepts *faut de mieux*: it is the cardinal principle of a new order of society—the essential foundation stone which must be well and truly laid if mankind is ever again to act in terms of international reason, justice and equity.

THE SAME THE WHOLE WORLD OVER

THE CLEFT STICK, or It's the Same the Whole World Over. Walter Greenwood. Illustrated by Arthur Wragg. Selwyn & Blount. 10s. 6d.

Reviewed by
STORM JAMESON

WHEN Mr. Greenwood was twenty-seven or eight he lost his job in Mr. Henry Ford's establishment, and thereafter deliberately refused to work any longer at those jobs to which he had been called by his initial folly in being born the son of a poor man.

He says that during the six years when he was laboriously learning his trade as a writer he sponged (like Bernard Shaw) on his female relatives, but he also drew a dole. It is pleasant to imagine the indignation of persons more fortunate in their births if they had known that here was a young man who might have been clerking at 35s. a week, but preferred teaching himself to write.

He taught himself well. Most of the stories in this volume were written during his apprenticeship, but they are not merely sketches for *Love on the Dole*. Each story, whether it is one episode in a boy's day, or the raw, teeming life of a street of poor houses, is sharply-observed, unsentimental, vivid to a fault.

The harshness, the monotony, the qualor, the humour—noisy, sly, bitter—of these streets in a northern town, he life in these stones, are here for all to savour. It is a strong tart savour, unforgettable if you have known it. Mr. Greenwood sentimentalizes nothing.

"Patriotism" neither the anxious driven women nor the Polish-Jew pawnbroker whose shop they wreck could be called agreeable characters. They are living.

The hungry boy in "Any Bread, Cake, or Pie," so defeated at last that he doesn't care who sees him blubbing, is any rowdy urchin.

The finest story is "A Son of Mars." In it is all the waste and the poisoning of human qualities in a society which can only use the full energies of its men in war; the spoiled lives of children; the incredible courage of poor women.

At his best, and in this story he is at his best, Mr. Greenwood almost convinces us that he could write that great novel of working-class life for which we are waiting.

This story, too, drew from Arthur Wragg one of the best of his illustrations to the book. There are others as moving and powerful.

It is a fortunate collaboration that brings this writer and this artist together. If one is the voice, the other is the very spirit of these streets, creating a memorable and bitter poetry from the shawled bodies of women, the defeated shoulders of a group of men, a child's attitude of despair.

Unconscious Humour

THIS ENGLAND. Illustrated by Low. The New Statesman and Nation. 1s.

Selections from the "This England" feature of *The New Statesman and Nation*, illustrated by the inimitable cartoonist of the *Evening Standard*. An "inspired" heading in many cases provides the finishing touch. The result defies the reviewer. Here is a sample, from the section entitled "Lesser Breeds":—

A minor point, which many may consider a very major one, is that the handing back without reference to the resident population would not be in accordance with English principles of equity. . . . But we do not really know native opinion. After some careful propaganda it would appear to be worth the risk of taking a referendum throughout the country after making sure that it would go, overwhelmingly, in England's favour.—*Uganda Guardian*.

The heading is (of course) "Self-Government."

A WORLD OF FAIRY TALES

EUROPE AT THE CROSS-ROADS. Hugh Sellon. Hutchinson. 10s. 6d.

Reviewed by
BERTRAND RUSSELL

THIS book has merits and demerits. It is worth reading because it represents very closely the point of view of the existing British Government.

For those who are pacifists, but find their pacifist convictions continually endangered by dislike of fascists and Nazis, the book may serve a useful purpose in showing that quite decent people can like fascists and Nazis even while not wholly approving of them.

Briefly, what the author says is:—

Fear of Marxism is responsible for Mussolini and Hitler, who deserve the gratitude of their respective countries. Mussolini is almost admirable; Hitler has one defect, his anti-Semitism.

Franco is a noble patriot, who bravely threw himself into the task of saving his country from the clutches of Moscow; we must be friends with him, both on account of his merits, and in order to keep Minorca, Ceuta, the Canary Islands out of the hands of Mussolini and Hitler, who, admirable as they are, must not be allowed to interfere with British interests.

We should induce France to give up her Eastern commitments in return for a firm alliance with ourselves; we should placate Germany by the return of the ex-German colonies that we hold under a mandate, and by undertaking to leave Czechoslovakia to her fate. By this method, it is thought,

FOR those who have left their Christmas shopping till the last week (as usual!) we give the following suggestions:—

BOOKS: *Recollections and Essays*, Tolstoy (World's Classics Series), 2s. The following can be obtained from the Peace Pledge Union, 96 Regent Street, London, W.1: *The Power of Non-Violence*, Richard B. Gregg, 5s.; *The Necessity of Pacifism*, J. Middleton Murry, 3s. 6d.; *We Say No!*

Education

Teachers to Discuss Problems

Teachers from many countries are expected to attend a conference to be held in London from January 7 to 11 to consider new problems of teaching international relations.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Education and the headmaster of Rugby have agreed to speak at the opening session.

The conference has been convened by the Education Committee of the League of Nations Union. Particulars may be obtained from the secretary of the L.N.U., 15 Grosvenor Crescent, London, S.W.1.

YOUR LAST CHANCE!

H. R. L. Sheppard, 3s. 6d.; *The Faith Called Pacifism*, Max Plowman, 3s. 6d.; *Which Way to Peace?* Bertrand Russell, 2s. 6d.; *The New Pacifism* (essays by Gerald Heard, H. R. L. Sheppard, &c.), 2s. 6d. Published by Hamish Hamilton: *The Story of Ferdinand*, 3s. 6d. (about a bull who was a pacifist!).

CHRISTMAS CARDS: 2d. and 4d., also from P.P.U.; 2d. each, card and envelope (individual samples, 3d. post paid), from Fellowship of Reconciliation, 17 Red Lion Square, London, W.C.1; 2d. each (or 8d. —not stamps—for sample of four) from Bob Gray, Buckland Newton, Dorchester.

DIARY for pacifists, 1s. 6d., from the P.P.U.

BOWLS, writing sets, candlesticks, &c., all beautifully made. Details from Cotswold Bruderhof Handicrafts, Ashton Keynes, Wiltshire.

GRAMOPHONE RECORD made by Dick Sheppard when Dean of Canterbury, 3s. Order from Edward B. Hubert, 2 The Parade, Stroud Green Road, Finsbury Park, London, N.4. (Postage on 1, 2 or

Why Not—

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A True Christmas

THE hour is a late one, and it is Christmas Eve. Behold a city, which belongs to the greatest nation in the world and lies resting under a coverlet of snow.

by
EVELYN ATTOCK

The city is taking a well deserved sleep and rest. A silence reigns over it and all weariness is forgotten.

DURING the day that is passing the streets have been thronged with people of all nations. Its churches have been filled with people coming to show their gratitude to God for what has come to pass.

Looking at these people, one saw that each face was bright with hope, and fear had vanished from their eyes. They appeared hopeful, fearless, and happy.

Has another miracle been wrought upon earth?

No miracle, but a wonderful, natural deed.

The nation that possesses this city has accomplished the deed and because of it these pilgrims came to pay it homage and to spend Christmas Eve as a thanksgiving day.

While every nation, except itself, was preparing for war and

spending on armaments money that should have been spent on the poor, this nation had the courage to disarm and accept the consequences.

What were the consequences?

Respect, admiration, and love were given to it instead of hate.

Those nations which dwelt near it had for many years been preparing armaments to fight against it as soon as the occasion arose. But, when they saw it had disarmed, and was happier for having done so they were ashamed and hid their armaments.

Soon they decided to disarm too and happiness came to them also.

NO man will hit one who has not the means to defend himself.

Nations are made up of individuals. No nation was base enough to fight this disarmed one. If there had been one, world opinion would have prevented it.

So this fair city is deserving of its slumber, it belongs to the bravest country that the world has ever known.

For more than nineteen hundred years there has not been such a wonderful Christmas as this one. Once more a real peace has descended upon earth and there shall be no more wars.

All the people of the earth shall lie down together and a little Christmas



A citizen of that city.

child shall lead them, for each needs guidance.

The moonlight is fading now and dawn will soon break over the lovely, silent city.

Any citizen, however humble, is to be envied that can claim it for his own. What is the name of the city?

When daylight comes it will be possible to see it more clearly and to learn its honoured name.

PACIFISM IN WAR TIME

Captain Philip Mumford's third article

TO clear our minds as to the true implications of non-violent resistance to evil I believe we must substitute the word "work" for "fight."

In the next war we will not fight the enemy—neither ought we to fight the militarist, the Government, or other groups of people whose views and actions are in disagreement with our own. **We cannot force a single recruit to pacifism—we can only attract—and we shall only attract by positive achievements.**

That the next war will produce human misery upon an almost incalculable scale does not need stressing. What are we going to do about it?

Disease and famine, personal brutality and degradation must follow the present methods of armed "defence." The former are our real enemies, the latter merely a folly to be exposed.

Help for the Suffering

Let the pacifist organizations and their members decide that when war comes the whole of their strength will be used to alleviate human suffering.

Let us work against disease, starvation, and chaos, not fight against political groups or governments, against recruiting, air raid "precautions," and other incidentals to war. If we want to stop war it is useless to kick against the pricks of its symptoms.

We should inform both the Government and the country of our plans

and explain that our line of conduct is not to avoid persecution—should it wish to do so, the Government will still have legal excuse to persecute us for our disassociation from participation in armed conflict.

It will, of course, be more difficult for the Government to prosecute or persecute us if we are engaged in activities of which the whole population must approve, instead of merely engaged in open conflict with the authorities in their futile attempts to "protect" their citizens.

Pacifists will not be doing it for this reason, however. They will be offering their fellow men practical assistance of which they will be in dire need. Such a gesture will forward their cause better than languishing in prison for merely negative reasons and waiting for a millennium which the majority of citizens still do not understand.

Let us, then, from the outbreak of war, whilst refusing all participation in either military or civil assistance toward the prosecution of that war, work to succour the women and children, the starving, the maimed and the sick, who will be the next war's most tragic victims. Such actions can be translated into practical politics if we avoid theoretical hairsplitting in the name of consistency.

Let us also from the declaration of war propagate the terms of a just peace settlement for the termination of the particular conflict—and the avoidance of future ones.

By helping those in need, by constructive political action, and not by obstruction, will the world be converted to a conscience where military struggles will cease.

(To be concluded.)

JUST PUBLISHED

H. R. L. SHEPPARD

A Note in Appreciation

Written by a member of the Peace Pledge Union, with which, as its founder, Dr. Sheppard was largely occupied during the last three years of his life, this book reveals him as a man, for whom spiritual values were paramount. It explains how he inevitably was led to work in the larger field of humanity as well as within the Church.

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FIRST AID FOR GAS CASUALTIES?

AT the one-day school at Notting Hill Gate on December 5 a young man put the very complicated question as to whether he was right as an ambulance man in consenting to take a course in first aid for gas casualties, or whether he should refuse and lose his job.

The general opinion of the meeting seemed to be that the sensation he would cause by refusing would be a great consideration but that, of course, only he could decide.

I think perhaps the answer to the problem should be looked for in T. S. Elliot's *Murder in the Cathedral*, where Becket wrestles with the idea of deliberately seeking martyrdom to gain power, as a temptation. According to Dr. Faithful, who gave a lecture on psychology that same morning, martyrdom is as much a lust as killing.

The pacifist movement, as I understand it, has something greater at heart than "no more war," and that is the regeneration of the individual which cannot be achieved by stunts or common sense.

I think if the young man realized that to think of war is to make himself its slave he might find it easier to know how to act.

J. G. HARRISON.
28 Smith Street, London, S.W.3.

Self-Sacrifice

While re-reading Newman's *Apologia* recently I came upon two passages that I should like to quote here (my italics):—

1. The thought came upon me that deliverance is wrought not by the many but by the few, not by bodies but by persons.

2. And individuals, feeling strongly, while on the one hand, they are incidentally faulty in mode or language, are still peculiarly effective. No great work was ever done by a system; whereas systems rise out of individual exertions. Luther was an individual. The very faults of an individual excite attention; he loses, but his cause (if good and he powerful-minded) gains. *This is the way of things; we promote truth by a self-sacrifice.*

The truth of these sentences has long been known to pacifists but it cannot be stated too often, for I believe there are still too many members of P.P.U. groups who are leaving the great weight of diffusing propaganda and extending membership to their elected officials instead of doing their own share as individuals, "promoting truth by a self-sacrifice."

The movement has gone ahead at a rate almost beyond hope, but if every member were to exert himself in the cause it would progress in a way that is even beyond imagination, and now above all others is the time for that exertion.

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LETTERS

POLITICAL ACTION

Dilemma :: "Pressure Politics" :: Join the Liberal Party? :: A Peace Election

MAY I put a plain question to the Islington branch of the P.P.U.? If the pacifists of the town of Derby take their advice and join the Labour Party, are they at the next election to support the present Labour member for the division?

If they do support him they will support a policy, sincerely and ably advocated, which is not only not pacifist but which, in the opinion of pacifists generally, could not be put into operation without plunging the world into war.

I cite Derby for two reasons. Mr. Noel-Baker was our Labour candidate at the last general election, and he is the Labour Party's leading expert in the realm of foreign policy. But Derby is a typical case.

Are pacifists all over the country to support a policy which is likely to lead to universal war, in the name of collective "security"? Then, when the war, which they by their votes have helped to make, comes are they to say "No"?

To many of us it is not good enough. But it is high time the leaders of the P.P.U. faced this question honestly. The issue is deadly serious.

H. INGLI JAMES,
Chairman, the Christian
Pacifist Party.

39 Park Road, Coventry.

In my opinion if members of the P.P.U. want to join a political party to use their influence they should join the Liberal Party.

To an old ex-labour member as I am, the freedom of opinion permitted to liberals is astonishing until one gets accustomed to it.

I am a pacifist and yet, during nearly three years' active association with the Liberal Party, holding high office, I have never once had my beliefs and actions criticized.

JOHN PURSAILL.
12 Southfield Road,
Duston, Northampton.

MANY pacifists are searching desperately for answers to the challenge of the Christian Pacifist Party. The latest puts the alternative in the unpleasantly clear light of truth. Our salvation is to be in "A new force coming into politics, which identifies itself with no party... what is known as 'pressure politics'."

Could anything be more undemocratic, more immoral, or more unpacifist? We are asked deliberately to place our elected rulers in such an awkward position that they will, for the sake of office, put into practice a policy in which they do not believe.

The Christian Pacifist Party is at least a sincere attempt to provide the nation with a genuine alternative government.

T. R. KING.
3 Glen Road,
Mumbles, Swansea.

It seems improbable that the Christian Pacifist Party will have enough support to return many pacifist M.P.s in the next general election.

There does seem to me to be an alternative which would indicate the strength of the pacifist movement. A peace election could be organized on the same day and the public asked to record their "peace vote" at a booth near to the official booth.

SIDNEY G. WHITE.
46 Wheats Avenue, Harborne,
Birmingham, 17.

"Inarmed"

"Inarmed," not "unarmed," is what the author, J. A. Symonds, wrote in the third verse of *These Things Shall Be*.

"Inarmed" is a rare word meaning "to embrace, or encircle." It is more positive than unarmed. It is also more human.

ALEXANDER C. WILSON.
8 Erskine Hill,
Golde s Green, N.W.11.

COMMUNITY

PACIFISM amounts to contracting out of certain responsibilities toward the State. The pacifist is in effect refusing to help the State in the State's hour of need; and the darker the hour the more urgent and the more subversive the refusal.

How is he to transform this denial of the State into a positive purpose? Must he not build his life upon an alternative basis, firmer and truer than that of the society which the State represents?

Would not this basis be a moral conviction, and its result a social organism, a community of men and women giving their allegiance to none of the kingdoms of this world, but direct to the kingdom of God? If Christ's teaching of faith and love has validity for human conduct, it seems to mean no less than this—the kingdom of God on earth.

I believe the statesmen of today to be just as sincere, considerably more intelligent, and commanding a far wider range of fact than I myself. These men have decided that, in order to preserve certain social values, rearmament, and in the last resort war, is necessary. I well believe that they are likely to be right.

Nevertheless the immorality of killing remains, and social values which depend for their preservation upon

murder, or the threat of murder, must be set aside. Again the argument points toward communities, communities in which no occasion of war can arise because prestige, self-aggrandisement and the desire for personal possession are absent, and in their place are faith and love.

I can picture numbers of those who survive the slow decay of our acquisitive society, formed into communities on such a basis, introducing a mode of life which will outlast the sabre-rattling State and our mechanistic civilization itself. I have seen such a community and believe.

H. ECROYD.
Hereford.

Psychology

I was pleased to read in PEACE NEWS (December 4) the account of the lecture by Dr. L. F. Browne on the "Psychological Causes of War." Modern philosophy has recognized that what is needed is some form of compromise between Marx and Freud. Could we not have some form of Pacifist Organization for Psychological Research? I should be pleased to hear from readers who are interested in such an idea.

RONALD F. PHILLIPS.
16 Middleham Road,
Edmonton, N.18.

"LANGUAGE OF PEACE"

LORD PONSONBY writes (PEACE NEWS, December 4) about foreign languages, and the difficulty of learning them.

What surprised me was that he does not mention the great peace language now in use in every country—especially between pacifists—I refer to the international language, Esperanto.

I appeal to all your readers to begin the study without delay, as we need it more than any other factor to further the cause. (Full information from British Esperanto Society, 142 High Holborn, London, W.C.1).

W. BOWYER,
Vice-President, Huddersfield
Esperanto Society.

46 Lowerhouses Lane, Huddersfield.
[Other correspondents make the same point.—Ed.]

PEN FRIENDSHIPS

I was interested to read Lord Ponsonby's article on the study of foreign languages.

It is, without doubt, true that the best method of studying a language is to spend an extended period in the particular country in which it is current. We must remember, however, that this method is completely impossible to thousands of keen language students.

There is, however, a vast army of "spare-time" linguists who, through the channels of correspondence, have built up friendships and acquired knowledge which, in the long run, may prove of greater value than the speeches of diplomats.

It may be that the P.P.U., through the medium of PEACE NEWS, might still further aid the cause of peace and international understanding, by an attempt to link together, by correspondence, pacifists of different countries.

HAROLD TURNER.
4 Schofield Road, Rawtenstall,
Rossendale, Lancashire.

Anti-Fascism

May I draw your attention to the paragraphs headed "Anti-Fascism Leads to Militarism" on page three of PEACE NEWS for December 4. The writer says "most pacifists are probably also opponents of fascism."

Surely every pacifist, simply because he is a pacifist, is completely opposed to fascism. Fascism and pacifism are absolute opposites; there is not the same fundamental opposition between fascism and the popular conception of communism.

JOAN DEMPSTER.
60 Warwick Avenue,
Edgware, Middlesex.

Yes: a pacifist is by definition opposed to fascism.—Ed.

Letters to the Editor should be as short as possible and written on one side of the paper only. Owing to the pressure on space we reserve the right to publish extracts from letters.

Correspondents must send their names and addresses, though not necessarily for publication.

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PARLIAMENTARY NOTES

By our Lobby Correspondent

THE House of Commons dearly loves a "row" and Mr. Attlee's visit to Spain seemed capable of satisfying all Parliamentary requirements in this respect.

Lord Winterton, as usual, did his best to fan the flames. But explanations were made, and the Prime Minister, stating that that was that, was said by Mr. Attlee's friends to have snubbed Lord Winterton, and by Lord Winterton's to have snubbed Mr. Attlee. So everybody was happy; everybody, that is to say, except the Spaniards.

In Spain the war runs its dreadful course, and although from various references of Mr. Attlee since his return, he appears to be satisfied that the Government has perfected its military organization, no military expert seems to expect at best—or at worst—anything more than stalemate.

Señor del Vayo, a former Spanish Foreign Minister, has suggested that Mr. Attlee's visit to Spain might now be followed by one from Mr. Churchill. This has led to a good deal of speculation in the lobbies. So also has another suggestion, not noted in the press, that the Parliamentary Pacifist Group should hold itself in readiness to send a deputation to both sides in Spain.

Where two belligerents are so absorbed in the attempt to exterminate each other, and where there is so much sound and fury bestowed on keeping them at each other's throats, by both pro- and anti-fascists, it is difficult to know what the P.P.G. could do in Spain.

Yet for the very reason that the still small voice of reason is even yet heard, if not heeded, in Europe, every opening toward reconciliation must be tried.

It was very heartening to hear from Mr. Lansbury, when his Parliamentary Pacifist colleagues and other friends gathered at the tea-table in the House of Commons to wish him God-speed, that his visit to the smaller capitals of Central Europe was due to no pressure or suggestion of his own.

It is really very remarkable, as Mr. Lansbury said, that where so much violence and faith in violence prevail, his informal visits to Hitler and Mussolini should have stimulated other governments also in a desire to talk with him about the fundamentals of peace.

No doubt the greatest Parliamentary need of the moment is that a new opportunity should be sought to debate the economic causes of the present world chaos and drift to disaster.

Such an opportunity is hard to find; and little help can be expected from a Prime Minister whose feet are too much enmeshed in the nets he laid at Ottawa to travel freely to world economic appeasement.

But hardly a corner of the world is now free from some oppression or some threat of disaster due to this lack of a genuine effort to meet the just and pressing needs of the dispossessed nations.

The very reindeer of Lapland can no longer browse in peace on their tundras, but must be scared by the passing Soviet planes, which daily watch the German transport of iron ore from North Sweden.

Russia and ourselves would be less

BRITISH EMPIRE HAS A MISSION

THE British Empire has its "mission," apparently no less sacred than the "missions" used to justify the actions of Powers less fortunately placed.

The Premier defined it at last week's inaugural meeting of the Empire Unity Campaign as one "to promote the peace and the welfare of humanity throughout the world." During the whole of his speech, however, he seemed more concerned with advantages to ourselves of the Ottawa Agreements than about their effect on "world peace and the welfare of humanity."

Mr. Chamberlain said that under imperial preference ("now a fixed and unalterable part of our imperial policy"), not only was increased prosperity in any Dominion automatically reflected in our own trade returns, but our trade with foreign countries had increased.

Let it be thought that imperial preference is at last the long-sought method of paying Paul without robbing Peter (at any rate under a competitive system of world trade) the next part of Mr. Chamberlain's speech should be read in full:—

The introduction of our tariff—which was of course a necessary accompaniment of the

in fear of war from Germany if in our own minds we knew we had given Germany a fair deal in meeting her many legitimate needs.

A Parliamentary debate on this issue is needed both by the Government and the Labour Party. Occasionally the latter proves itself woefully neglectful of the real situation which causes our troubles.

Lt.-Comm. Fletcher provided an example of this. Moving an official Labour resolution, calling the attention of the Government to the concentration of population in and near London, Commander Fletcher, improving on Blucher's original, exclaimed "What a city to bomb!" In his mind, clearly nothing could save London, as it is today, if war came.

But a day or two later he forgot all about this, and, egged on by some of his Labour colleagues, threw a shower of hot sparks at Question Time into the highly explosive material in the Far East.

A re-survey of the world situation might help some of these forgetful internationalists to remember their former dreams.

James H. Hudson

policy of imperial preference—has enabled us to make a series of agreements with foreign countries under which we have been able to accomplish widespread reductions of tariffs, both directly and indirectly, through the operation of the most-favoured-nation clause.

That was a thing which was absolutely impossible under free trade, for the simple reason that we never had anything to offer another country that they had not got already.

In other words, the tariff is used as an economic weapon in a world-wide economic war.

Perhaps it is significant that the meeting had opened with the singing of *Land of Hope and Glory*.

Pacifism at The Next Election

By a PEACE NEWS Reporter

THE need to make pacifism the dominant issue at the next election was put forward by Mr. W. L. Williams, secretary of the Christian Pacifist Party, as one of the reasons for the existence of a separate political party at a conference of London pacifists on Saturday.

He also revealed that the party had gained twenty or thirty new members since its annual conference last month, and should very soon be able to contest a by-election when a suitable opportunity presented itself.

The Rev. T. R. King, of the Swansea branch, spoke on the present industrial and international situation. He showed how the new party would be different from existing parties, and how it would hope to prevent the eventual desertion of original ideals which had overtaken other bodies.

During the discussion which followed Charles Haworth spoke of the need for exploring very thoroughly any policy which was to be put before the country. He also raised the question of an alteration in the means and methods of government.

The importance of putting the party's case before pacifist groups was stressed by the secretary, and the vice-chairman of the party (Gordon E. Turner, 6 Palace Court Gardens, Muswell Hill, N.10) undertook to call the first of what it is hoped to make regular meetings.

Uneasy Minds

"One can hardly avoid the conclusion that a large part of the nation which heard Storey's outburst on the wireless, or heard about it afterward, was already in an uneasy frame of mind," says the bulletin for November published by Mass Observation, 6 Grotes Buildings, Blackheath, London, S.E.3, which contains extracts from observers' Armistice Day reports.

PEACE and GOODWILL

TO

FELLOW CREATURES EVERYWHERE

How long shall the feast on slaughtered bodies of beast and bird continue to desecrate the season of Peace and Goodwill? The welter of blood of these slaughtered creatures contributes extensively to the drowning of the message and spirit of Christmas.

And how long will it be before the cruelties inflicted in the training and treatment of Circus animals result in general refusal to attend such shows?

There are finer foods and purer pleasures than any that are obtained through cruelty and exploitation. War has its roots in the slaughter and exploitation of our animal brothers. This Christmas, and onwards, let Love be all-encircling.

PEACE AND GOODWILL TO MEN AND TO ANIMAL FELLOW-CREATURES ALSO.

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OH! YOU LETTY. *Palace*.

This musical mix-up might no less fittingly be entitled "Oh! You Sydney." For it is Mr. Howard whose slow-motion humours will be responsible for 90 percent of the public support. When he is on the stage you can't, as they say, help laughing. So why try?

H.F.

Platform Pans

(Concluded from page 7, column 2)

Arms

FIGURES of the armament race include these for all countries together:—

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The Peace Race

NOT the Peace Pledge Union, or any other "pacifist idealist" body, but the Rothermere paper, *Daily Dispatch* (of Manchester), suggested this idea in its columns recently:—

It may be considered rather surprising that the nations, which are now building up bigger armies, navies, and air fleets, have not, apparently, considered an adoption of the Nobel idea. They could institute a scheme of cash prizes for those of their citizens who did the most to promote international understanding and secure world peace. There would be far more sense in such a competition than in many others in which we are engaged.

And, as thousands of prizes of £8,000 each could be met out of the cost of saving one battleship, the scheme would be a profitable investment for the nation.

Aftermath

HERE is what Dr. Johnson said about one of the less obvious results of war:

Among the calamities of war may be justly numbered the diminution of the love of truth by the falsehoods which interest dictates and credulity encourages.

A peace will equally leave the warrior and the relater of wars destitute of employment; and I know not whether more is to be dreaded from streets filled with soldiers accustomed to plunder or from garrets filled with scribblers accustomed to lie.

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ASSURANCE AGENCY vacant, N.W.10 district. Produces nearly £3 a week. Plenty scope. Excellent condition. Cash or terms.—Box 59, PEACE NEWS, 59 Waterfall Road, N.11.

MEETINGS

FREE RELIGIOUS MOVEMENT—Toward World Religion and World Brotherhood. Leader: Rev. Will Hayes—meeting in Lindsey Hall, The Mall, Notting Hill Gate, W.8, on Sunday mornings 11 a.m. December 19, "Hypocrites! . . . preparing for WAR!"

PEACE STICKERS

SPREAD PEACE Message—use "stickers" on Christmas correspondence. 1s. 100 post paid.—F. Boor, "Friendleigh," Disley, Cheshire.

P.P.U. "STICKERS" (adhesive stamps) may be used on your letters. 1s. per 100 from Peace Pledge Union, 96 Regent Street, London, W.1.

SITUATIONS

Vacant

EDUCATED LADY over 35 as Housemother, community worker essential.—Felcourt School, East Grinstead.

Wanted

MARRIED COUPLE (P.P.U.), social workers for many years, without work, will undertake any suitable employment for living wage.—Nicolson, 12 Fotheringham Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

TYPEWRITING

THE SOUTH LONDON TYPEWRITING BUREAU (Mabel L. Eyles), 51 Ruskin Walk, Herne Hill, S.E.24. Telephone Brixton 2863. Duplicating, typewriting, private shorthand lessons, speed practice, &c. Prices on application.

TYPING FOR "PEACE." Jean's Typing and Duplicating Office are waiting for any jobs you may have—large or small. Speed, efficiency, and low charges. Phone Bishopsgate 3309; 7 Broad Street Station, Liverpool Street, E.C.2.

WHERE TO STAY

CHRISTMAS. Vegetarian Food Reform, close sea, Down walks.—Cornelius and Gladys Barritt, 72 Church Walk, Worthing.

COTSWOLDS. In the "Valley of Peace." Food Reform (vegetarian) Guest House. Old world charm: log fires: house car: 2½ guineas (except August). Manager an ex-"C.O." "Fortune's Well," Sheepscot, near Stroud, Gloucester.

DERBYSHIRE HILLS.—Vegetarian Food Reform Guest House. Alt. 600ft. For happy holiday or restful recuperation. Increased accommodation. Central heating throughout; h. and c. water in all bedrooms. Central for conferences.—A. & K. S. Ludlow, The Briars, Crich, near Matlock. Tel.: Ambergate 44. Station, Ambergate (L.M.S.)

DOWNTON, WILTSHIRE. The Misses Philpott, Country Guest House, The Borough, Downton, Wiltshire. A roomy house on the banks of the river Avon, standing in a pleasant garden. Terms moderate.

SURREY. Lawrence Weaver House, Leatherhead. Modern Vegetarian Guest House. Excellent Cuisine. Home-grown Produce. Beautiful Grounds. London 36 minutes. January and February Course of Tuition in Vegetarian Cookery and Lectures on Natural Dietetics. Particulars from Sec., Lawrence Weaver House Ltd. Tel. Leatherhead 2936.

PATRIOTISM OR PACIFISM

From Our Own Correspondent

THE All-Ireland Anti-War Crusade held a public meeting in Dublin last week. Principal T. Spurgeon, of the Baptist Training College, Dublin, put the choice before the world as "Patriotism or Pacifism."

He showed how patriotism had inspired much that was good in the past and had been ennobled by great heroism, courage, and self-sacrifice.

A FEW copies of the Dick Sheppard Memorial Number of PEACE NEWS are still available, price 2d. each (postage extra). Order from 59 Waterfall Road, London, N.11.

Nevertheless, the nationalist spirit had led to a tremendous waste of brain power and of material assets.

Intellectual and moral blindness to one's own country's faults led to a hypocritical attitude of false patriotism. Feelings of superiority inevitably followed, with an accompaniment of injustice and suffering.

The pacifist took a world view—true pacifism was the extended hand to grasp another in friendship, and was exemplified for all time by the life of Christ.

"ADVERTISE PEACE"

A suggestion for the promotion of international peace through newspaper advertising was made by Sir Harry Britain last week.

Let the great industrial enterprises contribute to a common pool a small proportion of their present vast expenditure on advertising, he urged—although he had in mind "peace offered by a powerful nation."

He further suggested that there should be produced an advertisement extending to great European countries a friendly Christmas greeting and expressing the hope that the coming year would see the promotion of peace and better understanding.

Sir Harry added that such an advertisement, published in half-a-dozen Continental newspapers, would have a profound effect.

Mr. Amery said that effective antidotes to the campaign for warmindedness in the world would do incalculable good.

PLEASE HAND THIS TO YOUR NEWSAGENT

To M.....
(Newsagent's name)

Please deliver PEACE NEWS to me weekly.

Name.....

Address.....

as from issue dated.....

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Diary of the Week

December

18 (Sat.) ROMFORD Market P.P.U. Stall. BIRMINGHAM; 3 p.m. 42 Carrs Lane; meet for poster parade; P.P.U.

19 (Sun.) BAYSWATER; 11 a.m. Ethical Church, Queen's Road; Peace Sunday; Max Plowman on "Peace in Our Time."

READING; 11 a.m. St. John's Church; 6.30 p.m. The Park Congregational Church; Canon S. D. Morris.

SHADWELL; 4 p.m. Highways Club, Paddy's Goose; Nigel Sportiswoode; P.P.U.

BAYSWATER; 4.30 p.m. Ethical Hall, Queen's Road; branch meeting; Dr. George de Swietochowski on "Poland's Foreign Policy"; L.N.U.

23 (Thurs.) LONDON, E.C.4; 1.10—2 p.m. 13 Paternoster Row; Councilor Norman Prichard on "Psychology of Pacifism"; City P.P.U. group.

LONDON, E.C.4; 5.30 p.m. J.P. Restaurant, nr. Paternoster Row; Christmas party for guests from Shadwell and members of City group, P.P.U.

Coming Shortly

December 27, FINSBURY PARK; 8 p.m. Methodist Church (opposite Park gates); A. Ruth Fry, Lord Arnold, and H. Runham Brown; P.P.U.

January 8, BRISTOL; 2.30—5 p.m. and 6—8.30 p.m. Central Hall; Pacifist Convention; George Lansbury, Dr. Alfred Salter, Dr. Alex. Wood, Laurence Housman (chairman) and others.

January 19, ISLINGTON; 8 p.m. Town Hall, Upper Street; James H. Hudson (chairman), Miss Mary Gamble, Canon Stuart Morris, and Dr. Donald O. Soper.

January 20, NOTTINGHAM; Albert Hall; Canon Stuart Morris, Wilfred Wellock.

A film of still pictures with lecture notes on the present position of Australian aborigines and half-castes is obtainable from the London Regional Federation of the League of Nations Union, 43 Russell Square, London, W.C.1.

Please send names and addresses of anyone who might be interested to receive specimen copies of PEACE NEWS to the publishing office, 59 Waterfall Road, London, N.11.

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